

# **World Trade Center Health Program**

## **Establishing Eligibility Requirements for 9/11 Pentagon and Shanksville, Pennsylvania, Responders and Survivors: An Overview of Current Status**



### **Purpose**

In 2010, Congress passed the James Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act of 2010, establishing the World Trade Center (WTC) Health Program. This program provides medical monitoring and treatment for responders and survivors who were directly involved in the response to the 9/11/01 terrorist attacks on the Pentagon in Arlington, Virginia, and the Flight 93 crash site near Shanksville.

### **Site Description**

#### ***Pentagon***

American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon killing 59 people onboard and 125 within the Pentagon. Important response events include (1) environmental sampling in and around the Pentagon; (2) completed response phases including fire and rescue (9/21/01), crime scene (9/28/01), and demolition (mid-October to mid-November 2001); and (3) first tenants returning to reconstructed area (8/15/02).

#### ***Shanksville***

All 44 people onboard United Airlines Flight 93 died when it crashed near Shanksville. Important response events include (1) approximately 74 agencies and 1,500 responders and volunteers participated; (2) site excavated to assist recovery, (3) FBI relinquished control of the site to the Somerset County Coroner around 9/24/01, (4) crater backfilled from 10/1/01–10/3/01, and (5) site released to the landowners in August 2005. A permanent memorial is currently under construction.

### **Current Activities**

Gathering information to answer two questions:

- 1) What is the timeline of onsite response-related activities?  
A timeline of onsite activities (rescue, recovery, demolition, and cleanup) during the Pentagon and Shanksville responses is being documented. This includes, to the extent possible, identification of participating agencies, volunteer organizations, and contractors for each activity. This information is necessary to assist in determining the end date for cleanup of the site.
- 2) What airborne toxins, other hazards, and adverse conditions were onsite?  
Reports detailing environmental sampling efforts during the Pentagon and Shanksville responses are being sought and reviewed including area air sampling around response sites and monitoring conducted on responders during onsite activities (rescue, recovery, demolition, and cleanup). Other pertinent information is being sought such as material safety data sheets for foam used to control the resulting fire at the Pentagon, availability and use of personal protective equipment, and historical reports characterizing airborne contaminants from previous aviation accidents.

### **Future Activities**

A report describing the findings of the activities listed above will be prepared for review and use by the WTC Program Administrator and the WTC Health Program's Scientific/Technical Advisory Committee. The report will include a background of the Pentagon and Shanksville sites, a timeline of activities, and a comprehensive assessment of available information on responder and volunteer exposure to airborne toxins, other hazards, and adverse conditions.